

Appl. No. 10/815,918
Docket No. 9602
Amdt. dated July 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed on April 18, 2006
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment for wearing about a lower torso of a wearer and having a longitudinal axis, two laterally opposed article side edges extending between a laterally extending first waist edge in a first waist region and a laterally extending second waist edge in a longitudinally opposing second waist region, and a crotch region between the waist regions, the disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment comprising:
 - a backsheet;
 - a topsheet attached to the backsheet and having a body-facing surface;
 - an absorbent core disposed intermediate the backsheet and the topsheet;
 - at least one wetness sensation member including a water-permeable body-facing layer covering a portion of the absorbent core and a flow control layer disposed between the water-permeable body-facing layer and the absorbent core in a face-to-face arrangement with the water-permeable body-facing layer and having two laterally opposed flow control layer side edges, at least a portion of each of the two flow control layer side edges being disposed laterally inwardly of the article side edges; and
 - at least one refastenable side seam at which the opposing waist regions are pre-fastened together at or adjacent to one of the article side edges to form a waist opening and a pair of leg opening openings, the refastenable side seam comprising at least a primary fastening component disposed in one of the waist regions and being capable of being unfastened from and refastened ~~fastening~~ to the opposing waist region,wherein urine deposited by the wearer onto the wetness sensation member can penetrate through the water-permeable body-facing layer in a z-direction away from the wearer to the flow control layer and the flow control layer retards the

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passage of the urine through the wetness sensation member in the z-direction and supports the movement of the urine in an x-y plane such that the wearer's awareness of urination is enhanced.

2. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the primary fastening component is a mechanical fastener.
3. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the refastenable side seam comprises at least one discrete mating fastening component with which the primary fastening component is adapted to engage.
4. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 1 wherein the refastenable side seam is adapted to fasten the opposing waist regions together in an overlapped configuration and comprises at least one secondary fastening component adapted to fasten respective overlapped portions of the opposing waist regions together adjacent to the primary fastening component.
5. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 4 wherein the primary fastening component is a mechanical fastener and the secondary fastening component is an adhesive.
6. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 1 further comprising a visible highlighting indicating a presence of the wetness sensation member in the disposable absorbent article and being visible at least when viewing the body-facing surface of the topsheet to facilitate an opportunity for urinary toilet training of the wearer.
7. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 6 wherein the visible highlighting comprises at least one area of the flow control layer of the wetness sensation member including a graphic visibly differing in coloration from the topsheet.

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8. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 6 wherein the visible highlighting is associatively correlated with the concept of urinary toilet training.
9. (Currently Amended) A disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment for wearing about a lower torso of a wearer and having a longitudinal axis, two laterally opposed article side edges extending between a laterally extending first waist edge in a first waist region and a laterally extending second waist edge in a longitudinally opposing second waist region, and a crotch region between the waist regions, the disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment comprising:
- a backsheet;
 - a topsheet attached to the backsheet and having a body-facing surface;
 - an absorbent core disposed intermediate the backsheet and the topsheet;
 - at least one wetness sensation member comprising a water-permeable portion of the topsheet covering a portion of the absorbent core and a flow control layer disposed between the water-permeable portion of the topsheet and the absorbent core in a face-to-face arrangement with the water-permeable portion of the topsheet and having two laterally opposed flow control layer side edges, at least a portion of each of the two flow control layer side edges being disposed laterally inwardly of the article side edges; and
 - at least one refastenable side seam at which the opposing waist regions are pre-fastened together at or adjacent to one of the article side edges to form a waist opening and a pair of leg opening openings, the refastenable side seam comprising at least a primary fastening component disposed in one of the waist regions and being capable of being unfastened from and refastened ~~fastening~~ to the opposing waist region,
- wherein urine deposited by the wearer onto the wetness sensation member can penetrate through the water-permeable portion of the topsheet in a z-direction away from the wearer to the flow control layer and the flow control layer retards the passage of the urine through the wetness sensation member in the z-

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direction and supports the movement of the urine in an x-y plane such that the wearer's awareness of urination is enhanced.

10. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 9 further comprising a visible highlighting indicating a presence of the wetness sensation member in the disposable absorbent article and being visible at least when viewing the body-facing surface of the topsheet to facilitate an opportunity for urinary toilet training of the wearer.
11. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 9 comprising a plurality of the wetness sensation members disposed parallel to and spaced apart from the longitudinal axis and spaced apart from one another.
12. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 11 wherein the topsheet comprises two longitudinally extending oppositely facing Z-folds parallel to the longitudinal axis and the flow control layer of each of the respective wetness sensation members is disposed within a respective one of the two Z-folds.
13. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 12 wherein the two Z-folds further comprise two longitudinally extending elastic members disposed along the two flow control layers.
14. (Currently Amended) A disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment for wearing about a lower torso of a wearer and having a longitudinal axis, two laterally opposed article side edges extending between a laterally extending first waist edge in a first waist region and a laterally extending second waist edge in a longitudinally opposing second waist region, and a crotch region between the waist regions, the disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment comprising:
a backsheet;

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a topsheet attached to the backsheet;
an absorbent core disposed intermediate the backsheet and the topsheet;
at least one wetness sensation member including a water-permeable body-facing layer covering a portion of the absorbent core and a flow control layer disposed between the water-permeable body-facing layer and the absorbent core in a face-to-face arrangement with the water-permeable body-facing layer, no portion of the water-permeable body-facing layer extending longitudinally or transversely beyond the flow control layer; and
at least one refastenable side seam at which the opposing waist regions are pre-fastened together at or adjacent to one of the article side edges to form a waist opening and a pair of leg opening openings, the refastenable side seam comprising at least a primary fastening component disposed in one of the waist regions and being capable of being unfastened from and refastened fastening to the opposing waist region,
wherein urine deposited by the wearer onto the wetness sensation member can penetrate through the water-permeable body-facing layer in a z-direction away from the wearer to the flow control layer and the flow control layer retards the passage of the urine through the wetness sensation member in the z-direction and supports the movement of the urine in an x-y plane such that the wearer's awareness of urination is enhanced.

15. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 14 comprising a plurality of the wetness sensation members disposed parallel to and spaced apart from the longitudinal axis, no portion of the water-permeable body-facing layer of each of the respective wetness sensation members extending longitudinally or transversely beyond the respective flow control layer.
16. (Original) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 14 further comprising a visible highlighting indicating a presence of the wetness sensation member in the disposable

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absorbent article and being visible at least when viewing the body-facing surface of the topsheet to facilitate an opportunity for urinary toilet training of the wearer.

17-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment for wearing about a lower torso of a wearer and having a longitudinal axis, two laterally opposed article side edges extending between a laterally extending first waist edge in a first waist region and a laterally extending second waist edge in a longitudinally opposing second waist region, and a crotch region between the waist regions, the disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment comprising:

- a backsheet;
- a topsheet attached to the backsheet and having a body-facing surface;
- an absorbent core disposed intermediate the backsheet and the topsheet;
- at least one wetness sensation member including a flow control layer disposed between a water-permeable body-facing layer and the absorbent core; and
- at least one refastenable side seam at which the opposing waist regions are pre-fastened together at or adjacent to one of the article side edges to form a waist opening and a pair of leg opening openings, the refastenable side seam comprising at least a primary fastening component disposed in one of the waist regions and being capable of being unfastened from and refastened fastening to the opposing waist region,

wherein urine deposited by the wearer onto the wetness sensation member can penetrate through the water-permeable body-facing layer in a z-direction away from the wearer to the flow control layer and the flow control layer retards the passage of the urine through the wetness sensation member in the z-direction.

22. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 21 wherein the primary fastening component is a mechanical fastener.

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23. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 21 wherein the refastenable side seam comprises at least one discrete mating fastening component with which the primary fastening component is adapted to engage.
24. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 21 wherein the refastenable side seam is adapted to fasten the opposing waist regions together in an overlapped configuration and comprises at least one secondary fastening component adapted to fasten respective overlapped portions of the opposing waist regions together adjacent to the primary fastening component.
25. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 24 wherein the primary fastening component is a mechanical fastener and the secondary fastening component is an adhesive.
26. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 21 further comprising a visible highlighting indicating a presence of the wetness sensation member in the disposable absorbent article and being visible at least when viewing the body-facing surface of the topsheet to facilitate an opportunity for urinary toilet training of the wearer.
27. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 21 comprising a plurality of the wetness sensation members disposed parallel to and spaced apart from the longitudinal axis and spaced apart from one another.
28. (Currently Amended) A disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment for wearing about a lower torso of a wearer and having a longitudinal axis, a body-facing surface, two laterally opposed article side edges extending between a laterally extending first waist edge in a first waist region and a laterally extending second waist edge in a

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longitudinally opposing second waist region, and a crotch region between the waist regions, the disposable ~~absorbent article~~ pant like garment comprising:

- a backsheet;
 - a topsheet attached to the backsheet;
 - at least one flow control layer;
 - an absorbent core disposed intermediate the backsheet and the topsheet, at least a portion of the absorbent core being disposed between the flow control layer and the backsheet; and
 - at least one refastenable side seam at which the opposing waist regions are pre-fastened together at or adjacent to one of the article side edges to form a waist opening and a pair of leg opening openings, the refastenable side seam comprising at least a primary fastening component disposed in one of the waist regions and being capable of being unfastened from and refastened ~~fastening~~ to the opposing waist region,
- wherein the flow control layer retards flow in a z direction of urine deposited by the wearer into the disposable absorbent article.

29. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 28 wherein the primary fastening component is a mechanical fastener.
30. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 28 wherein the refastenable side seam comprises at least one discrete mating fastening component with which the primary fastening component is adapted to engage.
31. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 28 wherein the refastenable side seam is adapted to fasten the opposing waist regions together in an overlapped configuration and comprises at least one secondary fastening component adapted to fasten respective overlapped portions of the opposing waist regions together adjacent to the primary fastening component.

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32. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 31 wherein the primary fastening component is a mechanical fastener and the secondary fastening component is an adhesive.

33. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 28 further comprising a visible highlighting indicating a presence of the flow control layer in the disposable absorbent article and being visible at least when viewing the body-facing surface.

34. (Previously Presented) The disposable absorbent article of Claim 28 comprising a plurality of the wetness sensation members disposed parallel to and spaced apart from the longitudinal axis and spaced apart from one another.

35-42. (Canceled)